

**A PERSONAL NOTE:** My **NETWORK LOG** which I wrote last year was reprinted and is being sold for a limited time at the special convention price of \$15 including postage and all three supplements. This would be a nice Christmas present...The log on **SHOWS IN CIRCULATION** is also on sale for its convention price of \$18 which includes 5 supplements. See the enclosed flyer. The flyer lists the special prices and gives information on all my logs...PAUL WEISS, 1217 So. Potomac St., Baltimore, MD 21224 recently had surgery and would like to hear from his friends. Paul is a regular attendee of our conventions....**Supplement 3** to my **Network Log** is available for a SASE. Included are complete revisions to Bing Crosby, Romance, Challenge of the Yukon, Silver Theatre, Fred Allen, Philip Morris Playhouse and others....**Supplement 16** to my **Collectors List** (#149 - 159) is available for a SASE.

**FRED ALLEN LOG:** A complete revision to my **Fred Allen Log** is available for \$6.50 including postage. It is virtually complete (10/23/32 - 6/26/49). Most programs are identified by guests.

I hope everyone had a happy Thanksgiving and will have a healthy, happy holiday and New Year. I turned a very quiet 54 on November 25th.

**CONVENTION '88:** All details about the convention will be found on page 6...Many thanks to all the people who supported the Friends of Old-time Radio Convention by buying raffle tickets, purchasing shirts, pins and pictures and buying ads. The ads were purchased by James Albert, The Golden Radio Buffs, Jan Miner, Don Aston, The Old-time Radio Club of Buffalo and myself. Special thanks go to the many dealers and guests who donated prizes for the raffle. Carlton E. Morse donated 3 autographed books...Bob Burnham will have audio tapes and Don Ramlow will have video tapes of the convention. Their addresses are in the convention program. I will announce details when I get them...ED CARR, 216 Shaner St., Boyertown, PA 19512 sold some tapes at the convention which had the wrong programs on one of the tracks. Write to him and he will rectify it.

**CONVENTION '89:** The dates are October 19-21 at the Holiday Inn North, Newark. It will start again on Thursday around 12 noon. Friday will now be a full day with dealers tables running from 9 to 6. The Saturday hours for dealers will still be 9 to 3. Possible re-creations will include "The March of Time," and "Ellery Queen." Norman Corwin was approached to be one of our guests and seemed receptive. Sanford Marshall, who was a producer and director at Mutual, has offered to do a talk. Doris Milberg is thinking of doing a panel on War News with newscasters as guests. Gary Yoggy is thinking of doing a related workshop of radio during the war years emphasizing its patriotic and propagandistic role...All suggestions will be considered. Please send them to me. Also, if you wish to help, run a workshop, etc., please let me know. Our first committee meeting will be in January or February in Stamford, Ct.

**SPERDVAC CONVENTION:** Karen, her two children and I visited California for the first time over the weekend of November 12th. I attended the SPERDVAC Convention on Nov. 11th and 12th while Karen, Evan and Elisa did a lot of sightseeing in Los Angeles. A detailed report of the convention will be in SPERDVAC'S monthly magazine. Larry Gassman, the chairman, together with help from many people including his brother, John, Bobb Lynes, Barbara Watkins, Cathie Passarelli, Jerry Williams and Don Haefele put together an excellent program.

Featured were the re-creations of "Gunsmoke" and Norman Corwin's "An Undecided Molecule." The Gunsmoke cast included Michael Rye in the lead, Parley Baer, Lillian Buyeff, Herb Ellis, Ray Erlenborn, Tyler McVey and Vic Perrin. George Walsh was the announcer and William Froug was the director. An Undecided Molecule was directed by Norman Corwin and had in its cast: Jerry Hausner, Lou Krugman, Fletcher Markle, Janet Waldo and Ray Erlenborn. The engineer was Marty Halperin.

Other celebrities and guests I had the pleasure of talking with were: Conrad Binyon, Richard



Wilson, Carlton E. Morse, Frank Thomas, Robert Winckler, Jean Gillespie, Leonard Maltin, George Balzer, Gale Storm, Paul Masterson, Bill Zuckert, Gladys Holland, Willard Waterman, John Archer, Jay Stewart, Veola Vonn, Barbara Fuller, Jack Kelk and Frank Bresee. At the Saturday night banquet I was presented an award for my work with the Friends of Old-time Radio Convention. It was very much appreciated.

Their convention (this is their 5th annual) is very effectively organized and run utilizing the help and expertise of many of its members.

**RADIO IS ALIVE AND WELL:** **PAUL HARVEY** was honored by Chicago's Museum of Broadcasting on Sep. 24th...WNEW-AM has a new host for "Make Believe Ballroom." He is deejay Les Davis who replaced Jonathan Schwartz who replaced Steve Allen.. California Artists' Radio Theater aired a new adaptation of Robert Louis Stevenson's "Treasure Island" on Sep 24th on KUSC-FM Los Angeles. Some of the artists involved were Dan O'Herlihy, Jeanette Nolan, Peggy Webber, Parley Baer, Vic Perrin, Richard Wilson..WNBC, on the air since 1926 as the NBC flagship station, signed off the air on October 7th being replaced by the all-sports station, WFAN...**Kirk Alyn**, according to the San Diego Union, is doing well after a triple-bypass operation. Alyn was supposed to be at our convention...**Charles Michelson** is offering two packages of classic Christmas specials. One package includes 5 specials excerpted from "The Greatest Story Ever Told." The other includes Christmas shows from Jack Benny, Edgar Bergen and others...A new exhibit opened at the Smithsonian's National Portrait Gallery on October 8th. It is called "On the Air: Pioneers of American Broadcasting." The exhibit was gathered by Amy Henderson who spent five years gathering all the materials. The Museum of Broadcasting in New York cosponsors the exhibition. It is open until January 2nd and contains memorabilia, photographs, cartoons, paintings, video clips and radio tapes.

**Bill Bragg** reopened the **National Museum of Communications** on May 22nd, 1988. The Communications museum in Irving, Texas houses one of the largest collection of radio memorabilia in the world. It has books, records, films and tapes, but it specializes in the hardware used in broadcasting. What originally was called the Texas Broadcast Museum in 1979, started with 41 pieces from his own collection. Now 21,000 square feet is filled with items from the whole spectrum of communications history. You can support the non-profit organization by sending donations to N B of C, Four Dallas Communications Complex, Lock Box 55, 6305 North O'Connor Suite 123, Irving, Texas, 75039. I have previously mentioned Bill Bragg who runs Yesterday USA Superstation.

**Studs Terkel**, bestselling author and longtime fixture on Chicago's classical station WFMT-FM, is now on in the afternoon...**Joe Franklin** and **Marty Glickman**, 2 New York radio broadcasting legends, are both celebrating their 40th anniversaries (Broadcasting - Oct 24)...Minnesota Public Radio broadcast a "Prairie Home Folk Song Show" at 8 p.m. (Eastern) Nov 26th. Former host **Garrison Kiellor** was joined by guitarist Chet Atkins and fiddler Johnny Gamble. A second season of "Good Evening," the replacement of "Prairie Home Companion," started Oct 1 over 160 American Public Radio stations. Ashland Oil is the sole sponsor and Noah Adams is still the host. (Broadcasting - Oct 17)...Radio is alive in Elmira, New York where, on October 30th, Gary Yoggy directed the Elmira Little Theatre in a re-creation of "War of the Worlds."...**JOHN NATHAN KANE**, a guest at our convention last year, was featured on a recent edition of NPR's weekend edition with an interview by Scott Simon. John is working on the 5th edition of his book "Famous First Facts."

**PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED:** NARA NEWS, Vol 16 #2; article on The Soap Opera and the War...ORCA NEWSLETTER, Vol 3; good article on the use of cassettes (ORCA is the Canadian OTR Club; also article on Tokyo Rose...NOSTALGIA DIGEST, Oct-Nov, article on Orson Welles and The War of the Worlds; also article on Harry von Zell...SPERDVAC Radiogram, Sep; articles on Don Stanley and Bob Sweeney...OLD TIME RADIO DIGEST, Sep-Oct, many pictures and articles about last years convention...RETURN WITH US NOW, Oct; issue devoted to War of the Worlds...ILLUSTRATED PRESS, Sep; article on "Life with Luigi.".. Oct; article on "The Shadow of Fu Manchu."...MEMORIES (Annual magazine put out by the Buffalo Club) Vol 14; devoted to Gunsmoke...NOSTALGIA DIGEST, Dec-Jan, article on Jimmy Durante...METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON OTR CLUB NEWSLETTER, Nov., articles on the



Breakfast Club and children's entertainment.

**BOOKS AND MAGAZINES:** **DISCOVERIES** is a fine publication for record collectors of all types. It is over 100 pages long, monthly, and costs \$12 a year. Write to Osborne Enterprises, 918 Holcomb, Port Townsend, WA 98368. Jerry Osborne has a syndicated newspaper column called Mr. Music...**SCARECROW PRESS** has two more radio - tv related books. The first is Television Drama Series Programming, 1982-1984 by Larry Gianakos. This is a follow-up to his first 4 volumes covering television drama programming from 1947-1982. This is one of his biggest volumes yet. All dramatic specials are covered as well as all the series. Writer and director as well as the performers and other personnel are credited. The index is exhaustive, covering all 5 volumes. Cost is \$62.50...The second book is Selected Radio and Television Criticism edited by Anthony Slide. Reviews and critical articles are reprinted in full from leading newspapers, magazines and trade journals covering the shows and the personalities from the late twenties through the late fifties (for television). Some shows and personalities covered are Jack Benny, Fred Allen, Edward R. Murrow, Bob Hope, Al Jolson and Vic and Sade. ..The October issue of **AMERICAN HISTORY ILLUSTRATED** has a 7-page article on OTR, mostly about WXYZ, The Green Hornet and The Lone Ranger. Dick Osgood is mentioned throughout. A page is given to clubs and associations including SPERDVAC, Friends of Old-time Radio, Museum of Broadcasting in New York and Chicago, NARA, RCA, OTR Club of Buffalo and others.

A new publication is **ARCHIVES JOURNAL**. The editor is **Donald Boates**, Box 66381, Portland, OR 97266. Don and I go back to 1970. A J is the publication of the new organization, American Jazz Archives. The serious jazz collector would be interested in this organization which is trying to preserve the hard-to-get jazz recordings of the past, especially of obscure artists. Send a SASE to Donald for the first issue...**COBBLESTONE**, The history magazine for young people, devoted its October issue to the Magic of Radio. Included were articles on Mary Margaret McBride, War of the Worlds, Sound Effects, children's radio programs. Clubs, dealers and magazines were also listed including Hello Again, BRC, Echoes of the Past. Address of Cobblestone is 20 Grove St, Peterborough, NH 03458...A new book out is **Flywheel, Shyster and Flywheel** edited by **Michael Barson**. It is a collection of recently unearthed scripts of this 1932-33 program starring Groucho and Chico Marx. The reader is captured by the lunacy of Groucho and Chico, just like the radio audiences of that period. The cost is \$9.95 from Pantheon Books, 201 E 50th St, NYC, NY 10022. Portions of these scripts were aired for the first time since 1932 on October 9th on NPR's Weekend Edition. **Steve Mallor and Mitchell Greenberg** took on the roles of Groucho and Chico...**ANTIQUES & COLLECTING**, Oct issue, has an article on OTR by Lee Munsick. It emphasizes "War of the World" and also discusses The Friends of OTR and SPERDVAC.

**BOOKSEARCH INC.**, Box 4126, Clearwater, FL 34618 (813) 796-5855 may be able to help in finding out-of-print radio-related books including The Big Broadcast and Tune in Yesterday.

**Carlton E. Morse's** books were sold at our convention and at the SPERDVAC convention. His books are available from Seven Stones Press, Star Route Box 50, Woodside, CA 94062. Books available are:

The "One Man's Family" Album - paperback - \$8.95

A Lavish of Sin - hardcover - \$14.95

Killer at the Wheel - hardcover - \$16.95

Stuff the Lady's Hatbox (An "I Love A Mystery" novel) - hardcover - \$16.95  
paperback - \$9.95

A relatively new publishing company is Gryphon Publications, Box 209, Brooklyn, NY 11228. Its emphasis is on paperbacks, detective stories and science fiction. Three of its magazines are Paperback Parade, Detective Story Magazine and Other Worlds. Send \$1 for the catalog, refundable with your first order.

**LOGS:** **CHALLENGE OF THE YUKON** by Terry Salomonson, Box 1135, Saint Charles, MO 63302. Cost is \$6.50...Within the next few months, new logs of Jack Benny, Sherlock Holmes and Fred Allen may be available...**RAY STANICH**, 173 Columbia Heights, Brooklyn, NY 11201 has 2 more logs: **ADVENTURERS CLUB** (1/11/47-1/3/48) for a



SASE...**PHILIP MORRIS PLAYHOUSE** (includes Johnny Presents, Great Moments from Great Plays). This log is \$4.00 and includes all the shows from 2/13/37 - 9/2/53.

**CATALOGS AND NEW SHOWS:** BOB BURNHAM (BRC), Box 2645, Livonia, MI 48151 has a new reel and cassette catalog. Highlights include new Whistler, Challenge of the Yukon, Rocky Jordan and Fibber McGee and Molly...STEVE LEWIS, 62 Chestnut Rd, Newington, CT has **Sherlock Holmes**, 3/22/50, with Ben Wright; **Take a Note** with Henry Morgan (8/6/39); **Percy Faith** (7/26/39)...ED CARR, 216 Shaner St, Boyertown, PA 19512 sent me his new supplement. Among many interesting items were several reels of Our Miss Brooks and 39 Lightning Jim.

**NEW ADDRESSES:** DANIEL DECKER, 1955 Ulster #156, Denver, CO 80220..DON DEAN, 841 E. Broad st., Menasha, WI 54952...RALEIGH BARKER, Stones Edge, Montgomery, TX 77356...JIM COONTZ, 8150 Candy Ave., #5, Reseda, CA 91335.

**NEW FRIENDS AND RETURNEES:** RACHEL ANNE GOODMAN, 306 Madison St., Whitesburg, KY 41858 is looking for radio shows with the following artists: Patsy Montana, Martha Carson, Girls of the Golden West, Ola Belle Reed, The Fiddling Powers Family...GEORGE BURKHARDT, 186 Harding Rd, Scotch Plains, NJ 07076...MICHAEL RATCLIFFE, 54 Henry St., Metuchen, NJ 08840...DAN POLLARD, 4535 E Shields Ave., Fresno, CA 93726...DENIS KRAY, 2713 44th Ave., San Francisco, CA 94116...MICHAEL RANKIN, Box 2141, Homer, Alaska 99603...STANLEY BOZYNSKI, 8196 Thorntree Ct, Grosse Ile, MI 48138...SHERYL HOPKINS, 4815 Laurel Ave, Omaha, NE 68104...THOMAS USISCHON, 172 North 8th, Brooklyn, NY 11211...MARVIN SILBERMINTZ, 11 Lowe Ave., Fair Lawn, NJ 07410...ERNIE ALOI, 24 Curtis Ave., White Plains, NY 10603...JOE CAROSELLI, 1060 Bergen Blvd., West Patterson, NJ 07424...ED COLE, 1108 Bartow Rd #1-101, Lakeland, FL 33801...JAY COHEN, 1601 3rd Ave., #21H, NYC, NY 10128.. LESLIE FEAGAN, 8 W 86th St., #4A, NYC, NY 10024...JACK FRENCH, 5137 Richardson Dr., Fairfax, VA 22032..BARRY FISHLOW, 3407 Hana Rd., Edison, NJ 08817...BARRY HILL, 4 Prospect Ter., Farsley, Leeds, England LS28 5ES...ED IMPERATORE, 31-33 Haight Ave., Poughkeepsie, NY 12603...TOM KNAPP, Box 401, Brooklyn, NY 11222...DORIS MILBERG, 3400 Bayfield Blvd., Oceanside, NY 11572...CHUCK MATTESON, 160 Rosehill Rd., Southport, CT 06490...RALPH MANCUSO, Box 471, Jersey City, NJ 07303...ROBERT MATTHEWS, 427 E 83rd St., NYC, NY 10028...DAVID PRICE, 35-51 88th ST., #1B, Jackson Hts., NY 11372...DON RAMLOW, 509 Velvet St., Portage, MI 49081.

ART SCHREIBER, 15 Kilmer Ct., Freehold, NJ 07728. Art is the head of the **National Broadcasters Hall of Fame** which is trying to find a new home...BILL WAKEFIELD, 2702 Cub Hill Rd., Baltimore, MD 21234...HENRY WILLIAMS, 59 Crescent Dr., Huntington, NY 11743...JOHN WALLACE, Box 257, Kure Beach, NC 28449. John repairs and sells used reel tape recorders...MISTY DAWN LANE, Box 78323, Seattle, WA 98178...JUSTIN TRIEBWASSER, 43-36 Robinson St., #1-B, Flushing, NY 11355...DAVID FREDERICK, RD1 Box 27, Meshoppen, PA 18630. David is interested in Captain Midnight and Hop Harrigan...PETER MASSERO, The Lawyers Club, 551 South State St., Ann Arbor, MI 48109.. BILL NEUHAUSER, 12122 Theta Rd., Santa Ana, CA 92705...ED BIELCIK, 7 Woodland Ter., High Bridge, NJ 08829...RICHARD KING, 18 Middle Rd., Barrington, RI 02806.. DAVID SULLIVAN, 6 Forest View Dr., Chester, NJ 07930...SAMUELLA WALLEN, 3905 Albright Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90066 is looking for the words to the RKO theme used for their radio and vaudeville programs. Her uncle, Arthur Roman, was an orchestra leader for RKO and was able to help a little bit...ARTHUR BARLAS, 4 Oak St., Burlington, MA 01803...DAVID MINARS, 24 Steers St., Staten Island, NY 10314...RUBEN THOMAS, 830 Manida St., #1, Bronx, NY 10474 wants all information and shows of "Barrie Craig, Confidential Investigator" and "The Shadow"...TIMOTHY SIMPSON, 855 So. Serrano #62, Los Angeles, CA 90005.. BILL HARDIN, 8218 Cyclamen Way, Buena Park, CA 90621...WALTER KANIELUK, 4826 Longford St., San Diego, CA 92117...RICHARD LEWIS, Box 15749, Colorado Springs, CO 80935...DICK MULLINS, 11473 Lev Ave., Mission Hills, CA 91345...RAYMOND COX, Box 44068, Panorama City, CA 91412...ROBERT MARTIN, Box 658, Soulsbyville, CA 95372..

**OLD FRIENDS:** ALAN CHAPMAN reminds us to listen to WPRS-FM, 88.3, in



southeastern Massachusetts on Fridays between 1 - 2 for the old-time radio show, The Ghost of Radio Past. It is produced by Bob Bowers. Both are members of The Radio Collectors of America...BOB BURNHAM will be back on radio on WJCO-AM (1510) in Jackson, MI from 2 - 4 PM, 7 days a week. OTR will be a major part of the station's programming...RUTH AND RUDY SCHWARTZ of Burlington Audio Tapes want to thank all their friends and customers for stopping by and placing orders. Please call us on our toll free line and ask about out new low prices on reel to reel tape. Ask for a free sample of our excellent quality, low-priced cassettes. Once again, thank you one and all...THOM SALOME, 196 Lawrence Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11230 has 4 uncirculated Shadows: Death at Darrowhouse, The Mummy's Curse, Death Rides the Broomstick, The Haunted House; all with Bill Johnstone. Thom's catalog is now ready. It lists 1600 reels with complete runs available at reduced rate, reel and cassette. It has an index and circulation report...Just a reminder that there is at least one individual who repairs and sells used tape recorders. He is JOHN WALLACE, Box 257, Kure Beach, NC 28449.

RAYMOND NEMEC, 1424 Heatherton Dr, Naperville, IL 60540 sent a newsy letter. Ray was recently honored by the Society for American Baseball Research. Ray was one of the founders in 1971. Ray specializes in statistics about the minor leagues, probably having the largest amount of information than anyone. He and his wife are editors of "The Doorknob Collector" for the Antique Doorknob Collectors of America. Ray is looking for an special doorknobs of any network or radio station. COUNTY MUSIC THE WAY IT USE TO WAS, hosted by John Parker, can be heard every Sunday morning between 3 and 5 am, CST on WWL - AM (New Orleans, 870). He plays country music from the 1922 to 1962 period, much of which is supplied by Ray. Ray is looking for a program called THE GUMPS; also MONTANA SLIM.

**IN FOND MEMORY:** LOUIS QUINN, Sep 15, 73; writer, actor and host for tv and radio (writer for Milton Berle, Orson Welles, Paul Whiteman)...PHIL LESLIE, Sep 23, 79; writer for radio and tv (Fibber McGee & Molly, Beulah, Major Hoople)...FRANK BINGMAN, Aug 21, 74; veteran radio announcer and newscaster (Amos & Andy, My Friend Irma). Bingman was a guest at our convention in 1984...LESTER LEWIS, Aug 24, 75; producer and agent (Behind the Mike, Stroke of Fate)...MILDRED GILLARS (Axis Sally), Jun 25, 87...VIVI JANISS, Sep 7, mid-60's; actress (One Man's Family, Suspense)...KEN MURRAY, Oct 12, 85; had a long career in theater, tv, film and radio (The Ken Murray Program, Texaco Star Theater, Which is Which).. ALEX GOTTLIEB, Oct 9, 81; tv producer and writer for film, stage and radio (Al Jolson, Eddie Cantor, Edgar Bergen)...JOHN HOUSEMAN, Oct 31, 86; master of many legit and film disciplines including writing, production, acting and directing. He collaborated with Orson Welles on "War of the Worlds."...RAD ROBINSON, Sep 77, 77; Robinson sang with the the Kingsmen Quartet on the Fibber McGee & Molly radio program for 13 years...VET BOSWELL, Nov 12, 77; last surviving members of the Boswell Sisters...JOSEPH GOTTLIEB, Nov 1, 78; radio and tv writer (WMCA)...SHEILAH GRAHAM, Nov 17, 84; legendary Hollywood gossip columnist.. MARIAN MANSFIELD, Nov 16, 83; Singer - actress (White Owl Program with Guy Lombardo; Bing Crosby Show for Woodbury Soap.

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JAY HICKERSON, Box 4321, Hamden, CT 06514 (203) 248-2887 \$10/year



## CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS

The Friends of Old-time Radio held its 13th Annual Convention from October 20th - 22nd, 1988 at the Holiday Inn - North, Newark, New Jersey. Celebrities present who received awards were: **Bob Dryden, Peter Fernandez, Jeanne Harrison, Bob Hastings, Hildegard, Jackie Kelk, Robert E. Lee, Sanford Marshall, Jan Miner, Carlton E. Morse, Larry Robinson, Joan Shea and Richard Wilson.** Other celebrities present were **Lee Allman, Arthur Anderson, Barney Beck, Jackson Beck, Court Benson, Ray Erlenborn, Ed Herlihy, Don Hughes, Raymond Edward Johnson, Rita Lloyd, Ann Loring, Peg Lynch, Gilbert Mack, Arnold Moss, Dick Osgood, Alice Reinheart, Stella Reynolds, Adele Ronson, Ken Ross, Terry Ross, Bob Steel, Ezra Stone, Arthur Tracy, Sybil Trent, Dwight Weist, Florence Williams and Miriam Wolfe.** The guest socialized with fans, participated in panels and workshops and re-created 5 radio shows.

The convention began on Thursday at 5:30 with cocktails followed by dinner. The 5 guests present (Carlton E. Morse, Ray Erlenborn, Dick Osgood, Terry Ross and Richard Wilson) talked informally to the fans. Jay Hickerson entertained with trivia and a sing-a-long for the rest of the evening.

Friday began at 10:00 with the opening of the dealers room. 46 dealers were present during Friday and Saturday. 210 people attended dinner with another 71 in the afternoon. Workshops and panels included: Computers (**Bob Burnham**), Lending Libraries (**Tom Monroe**), Female Detectives (**Jack French**), Broadcasting OTR and copyrights (**Bill Nadel, Larry and John Gassman, Gordon Kelley**, others), Gateway to Hollywood (panel) followed by auditions, Radio in England (**Barry Hill**), Music of the Lone Ranger (**Reg Jones**). The Dave Warren Players presented **The Maltese Falcon**. After dinner **Arnold Moss** was featured in a re-creation of **Cabin B-13**. The Dave Warren Players presented two episodes of **Allen's Alley**. During the dinners, the fans had a chance to visit the special guests for conversation and autographs.

On Saturday the dealers room opened at 9:00 and the workshops and panels started including: Gunsmoke (**Don Aston**), Meet Carlton E. Morse (**Larry and John Gassman**) and a re-creation of Gateway to Hollywood. The winners were **Leslie Feagan (Wendell Preston) and Suzanne Barabas (Judy Corbett)**. The script used was an episode of **One Man's Family**. **Barney Beck** gave a excellent sound effects demonstration. **Richard Wilson** headed a panel discussing War of the Worlds. **Raymond Edward Johnson** gave a stirring reading of The Telltale Heart. **Jackson Beck** led a panel and re-creation of Superman. **Arthur Anderson** directed an episode of Let's Pretend with all members of the original cast.

Saturday's events culminated with cocktails and buffet dinner for 344 people with another 164 coming for the day. After dinner **Robin Fields and Bill Daugherty**, professional entertainers from New York, entertained us with their arrangements of radio shows and commercials with music and comedy. They then gave a moving performance of Gershwin's, Rhapsody in Blue, with original words by Robin Fields. **Arthur Tracy** sang Pennies from Heaven. **Gilbert Mack** entertained us with a yodeling song. **Ezra Stone and Gil Mack** gave us a very funny, mostly ad libbed excerpt of the Aldrich Family in honor of its 50th year. **Bob Dryden and Alice Reinheart** led an all star cast in an episode of **I Love a Mystery**. During all of this, there were various interruptions as an updated version of **War of the Worlds** was performed, both on and off stage.

The awards were then given out including 2 Allen Rockford Awards to **Barbara Watkins and Barry Hill** for their outstanding efforts in keeping radio alive. **Jackson Beck** gave some closing remarks. **Karen and Jay** then officially closed the convention with their version of Thanks for the Memory, I'll Be Seeing You (dedicated to Hildegard) and God Bless America in honor of the 50th anniversary of its first performance on radio by Kate Smith.

I want to again thank all the guests who were very gracious in granting interviews and giving of their time to be with us.



# "We've Got to Have Carfare!"

*Working Conditions in Early Radio Were Strictly . . . "A Joke, Son!"*

by Arthur Anderson

One day in 1935, a twenty-five-year-old actor named Kenny Delmar got off the BMT at Times Square and strode uptown. Besides a piece of paper with the name of a man to see scribbled on it, he also carried several worries, some artistic, some financial—though his appearance contradicted this. His clothes would have been described as casual, his facial expression placid, but his hair was the most carefree thing about him, falling down behind as it did in long waves that looked like the churning wake of an ancient Greek sailing ship. Indeed, there was more than a little Greek in Kenny—which you might expect of someone who had a grandfather by the name of Zacharias Felixathees Thikou Es-tradiathbis.

Kenny was born in Boston in 1910, inheriting his performing talent from a mother who, during her own childhood in England, was half of a singing and dancing act, the Delmar Sisters. Later she acted in this country with such celebrated stars as Lenore Ulric, David Belasco and George M. Cohan—and when she produced children's talent shows in Boston and on tour, her son was of course included. This was what launched Kenny as a child actor, and started him working in New York. There were Broadway plays, there were early motion pictures (he had played Joseph Schildkraut as a child in the classic "Orphans of the Storm"), and . . . there was the Depression.

The Great Slump was what put Kenny, involuntarily, in the olive importing business with his stepfather in downtown Manhattan, and brought him that day in 1935 to radio station WHN ("Ten fifty on your dial—atop Loew's State Theatre Building."), where he had heard there was work for actors.

This proved to be an understatement.



Kenny Delmar as Senator Claghorn.

ment. The station had a heavy schedule of live programming in its two small studios. Kenny was taken on immediately. There was only one major disadvantage to the job—there was no money connected with it. However, he now found himself part of a very busy radio stock company, every member of which worked for the same magnificent wages mentioned above. The other talented and hard-working actors included:

Don McLaughlin, who as a young boy from the University of Iowa and the Chautauqua circuit, decided to find out what New York offered. One thing it offered was a wife (he married a newspaper woman), another was free work on WHN. He went on to become a busy performer in other better-paying acting jobs, and at this writing has completed his tenth year as Chris Hughes on the television serial "As the World Turns."

Louis Krugman, now a very active player in Hollywood theatrical and television motion pictures.

Louise Vetter, widow of the veteran radio actor Frank Readick, and



Kenny Delmar today.

now married to a television executive.

Gail Henshaw, who died some time ago.

Betty Worth, now out of show business and living in Bucks County, Pennsylvania, married to an executive of the Burpee Seed Company.

Wendell Holmes, who later became a busy and successful radio and stage actor, and died in the 1950's.

Gilbert Mack, who as Mack Gilbert had a hillbilly singing and comedy act on the "WHN Barn Dance." The stock company became his training ground for the many vocal and visual characterizations which he has done over thirty years on radio, commercials, children's records and film sound tracks.

Amy Sydell, who claimed she could talk faster and say more words per minute than anyone, and who still does so on commercial sound tracks and in other media.

As for Kenny Delmar, the stock company started his rise toward becoming one of radio's busiest actors, announcers and comedians. He became best known for his Senator Claghorn character on the Fred





Members of the WHN dramatic stock company (1937) broadcasting at NYU. Don MacLaughlin, announcer Bill Shappard, Wendell Holmes, Gilbert Mack, Louis Krugman.

Allen Show. He has since been starred in a Hollywood film ("It's A Joke, Son!"), a Broadway revue ("Texas Lil' Darlin'"), the banquet circuit (as the Senator), and in many television cartoon and commercial voice-overs. He will soon be getting back to his first love, radio, in a series of comedy vignettes on NBC's "Monitor."

With this nucleus of nine versatile performers, the station was able to put on a wide variety of programs which included comedies, dramas, documentaries, ghost stories, news programs and commentaries. There was even Shakespeare, directed by Maurice Barrett, who left show business in his eighties to become a rabbi.

The actors' day started at nine A.M. or earlier. Rehearsals were short, but the performers would appear in five or six shows a day, doubling in as many roles as possible without the duplication being too noticeable. An actor might also be called upon to double in sound effects. Gilbert Mack remembers doing Santa Claus, his reindeers' hooves and his sleigh bells, all at one time, with a goose-neck mike hung over the sound effects table.

The WHN Guild, as it was informally called, was quite democratic, not only in salaries but in acting assignments, which were given out weekly on typewritten sheets. Today's leading man might be tomorrow's crowd ad-lib. The morning's first assignment was the Ida Bailey Allen cooking show. This included dramatizations . . . also

early rehearsal calls. There was a weekly documentary called "Flame Fighters," dramatizing the most famous fires of history. Another program, five times a week, was "The Seven O'Clock Edition." This predated the radio "March of Time" in that it was the first in New York to dramatize the day's news events, with members of the WHN Guild impersonating Franklin D. Roosevelt, Charles Lindbergh, Mahatma Gandhi and other news makers of the day, reading from scripts which had often been finished when the program was already on the air.

The actors' most glamorous assignment was "The MGM Movie Club," probably because it paid a fee—five dollars. This featured Radie Harris interviewing a real live MGM star, plus the live portrayal of a scene from his current picture,



Gilbert Mack in 1936.

which the radio cast had just witnessed in a projection room on the building's rooftop next door to the studio, so as to perfect impersonations of the film actors' voices.

The WHN Guild was a close-knit social group. After they had done their five or six shows, the actors would gather at night in Child's, at Forty-sixth Street and Seventh Avenue, or at the Silver Dollar Bar, where the conversation would always include the exchange of casting tips on shows that paid salaries. Occasionally these get-togethers would be livened by impromptu performances, such as when Kenny Delmar would go into his Greek waiter bit, or his Texan bit, and in five minutes turn a quiet group of after-theatre diners into a captive audience roaring with laughter. After a long day of free work, more of the same after hours!

Obviously, the WHN operation was a labor of love for the performers. For the younger ones especially, it was an exciting chance to gain experience, to work, to be heard. But everyone had to eat. This was accomplished in various ways, depending upon the individual. Some of the women were supported by husbands . . . some husbands were supported by their wives, and the performers did get free-lance acting jobs elsewhere, in the theatre and occasionally on the network stations—WJZ, WEA (both then NBC stations), WABC (then CBS) and WOR (then Mutual). But it gradually dawned on them that it was only right they should be paid for rehearsing and performing some sixty hours a week. "At least," said



Gilbert Mack today.



one, "we've got to have carfare!"

And so in 1936 (no one seems to remember the date, or even the month), another, more serious after-work kaffeeklatsch was held in a nearby coffee shop. Louis Krugman, Kenny Delmar and a few others formulated some basic demands to be presented to the WHN management, the most important of which was . . . a salary.

The actors asked for twenty-five dollars a week. Negotiations were much shorter and simpler than those held nowadays. After some haggling, the station, whether out of a guilty conscience or a delayed sense of social responsibility, agreed to pay —twenty.

The issue had been won without a strike. The WHN Guild had carried the day, and its members began taking home salaries which amounted to roughly thirty-three cents an hour (before deductions).

The hard-won gains of collective bargaining began to pall, however, when more became known of better fees to be had elsewhere. Even on WHN itself, an outside show had been brought in by Hi Brown, working for Blackett-Sample-Hummert, "Joyce Jordan, Girl Interne." On this, the actors were paid twelve dollars for just *one* fifteen-minute

It was shortly after this, August of 1937 to be exact, network radio having become big business, that a national union of radio performers was chartered, the American Federation of Radio Artists, which is now our own union, AFTRA, and whose present basic contract with WHN, incidentally, calls for quite a few dollars more than the amount won by the hard-working crew of the WHN Guild.

It was on a cold day in 1936 that Kenny Delmar and Don McLaughlin, two of the WHN stock company's currently most successful alumni, were trudging up Sixth Avenue, talking with slightly raised voices, so as to be heard over the rumble of the elevated trains. "I'm not going on like this forever," said McLaughlin. "Before I'm through, I'll be earning seventy-five dollars a week!" "I won't be satisfied with that," said Delmar. "I'm going to make a hundred!" Through some haggling, and a lot of talent, all of them have done much better than that.

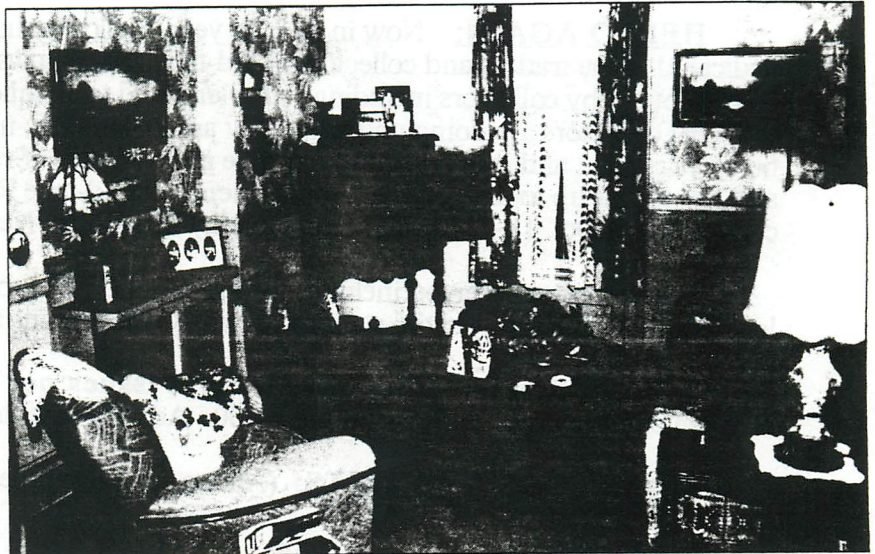
WANTED: The following Radio Shows of the 1930's and 1940's that feature ACCURILIONIST CHARLES MAGNANTE

Hammerstein's Theatre of The Air, Evening in Paris, Melodiana, Texaco, Abe Lyman's waltz Time Major Bowes & His Capitol Family, Manhattan Merry-Go-Round, Lucky strike Hit Parade, Maxwell House Showboat, Everready Program, Paul Whiteman Old Gold Program, Phillis Milk of Magnesia? Phillis Dental Magnesia? Morning Melodies, Bromo Seltzer, Dr. Hill's Program, Tin Type Toner, Molee Minstrels, Roxy & His Gang, Chamlee & Brown, Bond bread Program. Please list others if not listed above. Thank you.

Stanley Bozynski  
8196 Thorntree Ct. Grosse Ile, Michigan 48138

Broadcasting

11/7/88



**Room for radio.** Radio took center stage at the Museum of Broadcasting during an Oct. 27 seminar, *Orson Welles On the Air: The Radio Years*, promoted as the museum's first radio exhibition. The panel, which focused on innovative radio techniques exercised by Welles, included Geraldine Fitzgerald and Arlene Francis, who both worked with Welles on stage and the radio; *War of the Worlds* radio scriptwriter Howard Koch; former Mercury Theatre stage manager and production assistant to Welles, Richard Wilson, and film critic Andrew Sarris, who moderated the panel. The seminar coincided with the unveiling of the museum's first radio exhibition room (pictured above). Designer Santo Loquasto styled the room after his set design for Woody Allen's nostalgic *Radio Days*, complete with furnishings used in the film. Major support for the museum's radio department has been provided by Interep Chairman Ralph Guild and Westwood One Chief Executive Officer Norm Pattiz. Pictured below, l-r: Chris Feder (Orson Welles's daughter); Koch; Fitzgerald; Francis; Wilson and Sarris.





## LOGS AND LISTINGS FOR COLLECTORS OF OLD-TIME RADIO PROGRAMS

**LOG OF ALL NETWORK SHOWS:** This 100-page log lists over 1700 network shows on the air from the 1920's to the 1980's. Each show, arranged alphabetically, contains a chronological history of changes in sponsors, network, days, length, and time. Exact broadcast dates are indicated in many instances. This log is a **MUST** in every library. Much of the information is not readily available elsewhere. Availability of logs of individual series are also indicated. **Special cost is \$15.00 including 2 supplements.**

**CIRCULATING SHOWS:** This 75-page computerized log lists all available complete network and syndicated shows. Each item lists title, year(s) on the air and the number of shows available for trade. If there are a few shows available, exact dates or titles are often shown. List of sources is included. Complete or partial runs are indicated. **Special cost is \$18.00 including several supplements.**

**SUSPENSE LOG:** This 40-page log lists every show chronologically and alphabetically. Each entry lists date, title, and up to 2 performers when known. It also includes an introductory part listing directors, producers, musicians, sponsors and other important information. **Cost is \$8.00**

**HELLO AGAIN:** Now in its 20th year, Hello Again is the oldest independent newsletter dedicated to the traders and collectors of old-time radio shows. Much of the information it contains is contributed by collectors including: problems and techniques in dubbing, tape quality, what different collectors are doing and what they are looking for, updated info about new radio shows being circulated and logs related to old-time radio, deaths of radio personalities and much more. It also keeps you up to date on the annual Friends of Old-time Radio Convention. The next convention is Oct. 19-21, 1989 at the Holiday Inn-North, Newark, NJ.

The first issue received includes listings of all OTR clubs, publications, many dealers, all logs available and many radio stations playing OTR. It runs about 4 to 8 pages an issue.

**Subscription is \$10.00 a year for 6 issues per year.** Send a SASE for a complimentary copy. Back issues are \$1.00. Ads are accepted.

### **MORE LOGS AND LISTS:** (All are complete unless indicated)

Lux Radio Theater	\$5.00	<b>Fred Allen (Newly revised)</b>	<b>\$6.50</b>
Screen Guild Theater	\$5.00	Theater Guild of the Air	\$3.00
Sherlock Holmes	\$5.00	Green Hornet (mostly complete)	\$4.00
Jack Benny (Sketchy from 1932-34; almost complete from 1935)			\$6.50
List of Collectors (150)	\$3.00	Gunsmoke	\$6.50
Inner Sanctum	\$3.00	Escape	\$2.50
Hallmark Playhouse	\$1.50	Guide for Beginning Collectors	\$2.50
Columbia Workshop	\$3.00	Mercury Theater	\$1.00
One Man's Family	\$2.50	I Love a Mystery	\$1.00
4 pages of tips on taping	\$1.50		

CBS Radio Workshop; Studio One; Ford Theater; Academy Award Theater; CBS and You Are There; Screen Directors Playhouse: \$.75 each.

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